281 Bihar

Development of Mines Located Area

5864. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of cess realised from the bauxite mines of Lohardaga and Gumla districts in Bihar during the last three year;

(b) whether there is any provision for spending one per cent of such cess so realised for the development of the area where such mines are located;

(c) if so, the amount spent on the development of the above districts; and

(d) the details of the development work done so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English] Uttar Pradesh

281

Waiting list for telephone Connections in U.P.

5865. SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications on the waiting list for telephone connections in Districts of Tehre Garhwal, Uttarkashi, Ghakrota and Mussoorree in U.P.; and

(b) the time by which new electronic telephone exchanges are expected to be commissioned at the above places and telephone connections likely to be provided to all applications on the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of applications on the waiting list for telephone connections as on 31.3.91 is: (i) in District Tehri Garhawal, 7. (ii) in District Uttarkashi, 33. (iii) in Chakrota exchange area, 2. (iv) in Mussoorree exchange area 268. (Chakrota and Mussoorree Exchanges are in Dehra Dun District).

(b) Chakrota already has Electronic Exchange. The Manual exchange at Uttarkashi and Electromechanical Exchange at Mussoorree have been planed to be replaced during 91-92 by Electronic exchanges. Replacement of other exchanges by Electronic Exchange in the districts will be carried out progressivaly as per the policy of replacement of all the life expired exchanges. The waiting list is likely to be cleared by March 1993.

282

New Job Opportunities in the Gulf Countries

5866. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to secure new job opportunities for Indians in the Gulf countries especially in Kuwait, Saudi, Arabia, Iran and Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The Government is in constant touch with both the Government and employers in the various Gulf countries to promote and secure new job opportunities for Indian nationals in those countries. Over 30,000 Indian nationals have returned to Kuwait, while there has been a substantial increase in the number of Indian nationals proceeding to other countries, particularly Saudi Arabia.

282

Central Assistance for Irrigation Projects in Orissa

5867. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of Central assis-

tance asked for by the Government of Orissa for the implementation of irrigation projects during last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Central assistance is given to the State in the form of block loans and grants and is not tied to any particular sector of development or project. The outlay proposed by the State Government during the last three years for irrigation sector were as under:-

	Rs. in crores
1988-89	220.68
1989-90	189.13
1990-91	287.71

RMS Sorting Offices

5868. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of RMS Sorting Offices in the country;

(b) whether all of them have the required structural accommodation with minimum facilities and amenities; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Sir, there are 548 RMS Sorting Offices in the country.

(b) While accommodation is provided to all Railway Mail Sorting Offices, in the case of units functioning in rented or Railway premises, due to various constraints, it is not always possible to provide desired level of facilities and amenities in them.

(c) Subject to availability of resources, in a phased manner, better accommodation is arranged, wherever possible.

Sorting Machines in RMS Offices

5869. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to instal sorting machines in RMS Offices;

(b) if so, the cost of each machine and the country from which the Government propose to import such machines; and

(c) the number of RMS offices which are being provided with this machine and the number of employees likely to be rendered surplus as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) A decision has been taken to instal automatic integrated mail processing system in Bombay.

(b) This technology is available only in some developed countries and the equipment has to be imported. Action for procurement of equipment is under way.

(c) A study of the project for Bombay show that 85 sorters would become available for deployment else where to sort the rest of the non-machineable articles and increased work-load in other spheres of Postal and RMS activity, after the proposed equipment is installed.

Fishing Harbour at Paradip

5870. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an abnormal delay